

Busyness: Overcoming An Addiction To “Yes”

“Simplify Your Life”, Part 2 of 5
Pastor Vince DiPaola

I) OUR WORDS, OUR HEART, AND OUR CHOICES

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’ But I tell you, do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. **Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’;** anything beyond this comes from the evil one.” (Matthew 5:33-37, NIV)

1) Our words reveal our ____ CHARACTER ____.

2) Our words reveal our ____ COMMITMENTS ____.

3) Our words reveal our ____ CRAZINESS ____.

“The tongue has the power of life and death...” (Proverbs 18:21a, NIV)

II) WHEN YOU SHOULD SAY “YES” FOR SUCCESS

Only say “yes” when these key criteria are met

1) The opportunity meshes with your true ____ CONVICTIONS ____.

“But Peter and the apostles replied, ‘We must obey God rather than human authority.’” (Acts 5:29, NLT)

2) The opportunity is in harmony with your life- ____ CALLING ____.

“[Jesus said] I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work You gave Me to do.” (John 17:4, NIV)

3) The opportunity finds support from reliable ____ COMPANIONS ____.

“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.” (Proverbs 15:22, NIV)

4) The opportunity will meet real needs in this ____ CULTURE ____.

“For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep...” (Acts 13:36a, NIV)

5) The opportunity will fulfill God’s Great ____ COMMISSION ____.

“As surely as God is true... My yes means yes because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, never wavers between yes and no. He is the one whom Timothy, Silas and I preached to you, and he is the divine Yes— God’s affirmation.” (2 Corinthians 1:18-19, NLT)

III) WHAT TO SAY WHEN YOU CAN’T SAY “YES”

1) “ ____ NOT NOW ____ ”: When it’s not the right time.

2) “ ____ NOT THAT WAY ____ ”: When it’s not a good fit.

3) “ ____ NOT ME ____ ”: When someone else is better qualified.

4) “ ____ NO ____ ”: When you just should not do it.